

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-14 are pending in the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 6-14 for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 2 and 6 of grandparent Patent No. 6,369,624, issued on grandparent Application No. 09/432,142, filed November 2, 1999. Claim 5 is rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claim 2 of the grandparent patent in view of Dekker U.S. Patent No. 5,783,971.

Applicants' Reply

Applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(b,c), disclaiming the terminal part of the term of any patent issued on the above-identified patent application that would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent 6,369,624 (currently November 2, 2019*), and requiring that any such patent remain commonly-owned with U.S. Patent 6,369,624.

A check in the amount of \$110.00, in payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d), is enclosed herewith. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee due in connection with the Terminal Disclaimer, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Reply is transmitted herewith.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the double-patenting rejection should be withdrawn. No

* It is applicants' and assignee's intention that if any change in the patent statutes changes the expiration date of grandparent Patent 6,369,624, then the date beyond which the term of any patent to issue on this application is disclaimed shall change along with the expiration date of the parent patent.

other rejections were made against claims 1-14 and accordingly those claims should be allowable.

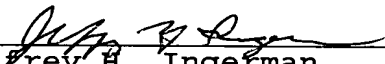
Amendment of the Specification

Applicants have amended the specification to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, applicants respectfully submit that this application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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